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2018-04-25

Xavier University Newswire

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Walkout receives mixed reactions

One response to the event was a 'Walk Up' hosted by College Republicans

BY BRITTANY WELLS
Staff Writer

Last Friday, approximately 450 people attended Xavier's "We Will Not Be Next National School Walkout" organized by the Student Government Association (SGA) executives. The vigil included reading the names of the 30 students and teachers who died at Columbine and Stoneman Douglas High Schools. The Walkout was an SGA executive project with willing senators' involvement to help ensure that, despite a recent uptick in school shootings, Xavier will not be next.

Commencing at 11:19 a.m. on the 19th anniversary of the Columbine High School shooting, students walked out from residence halls, meeting places and most importantly, according to SGA Senator and Student Organizations Committee Chair Ellen Rakowski, classrooms.

"This walkout (was) to disrupt class to bring attention to the senseless loss of life due to gun violence in schools," Rakowski said.

The walkout came in two parts: a vigil and a call for reform. Five hundred shirts stating "we will not be next" were handed out, and 543 letters calling for the approval



Approximately 450 people participated in Friday's Walkout to remember victims of school shootings. The Walkout included the reading of the names of those killed in the Columbine and Stonewall Douglas shootings.

Newswire photo by Sydney Sanders

of Ohio Senate Bill 260 were signed. The letter and the reform aspect were a group of senators' personal project. Rakowski said the letter "calls for (a) firearm and ammunition transaction database and the ban on military grade assault-style weapons."

For SGA Vice President Brianna Boyce, the Walkout hit close to home.

"(Physically walking out) brings attention to something

that...was my reality," Boyce said. "I was used to being in lock-downs, hiding in a corner, making sure that you weren't seen. I don't want other students to have that feeling."

For some participants, like junior Gabriella Lisi, the Walkout drew attention to fears they already had regarding campus safety.

"I would be lying to say that I am fearless when I walk through the glass-lined walls

of Alter," Lisi said.

Overall, however, "Xavier is a very safe campus," Chief of Police Daniel Hect said. "We are doing a lot already... The whole goal there is to find a way to interrupt the pathway to violence... You'll see a lot of different things roll out next year as far as active shooter, targeted active violence, high risk (and) low frequency instances on college campuses."

Vice President of Enrollment Management and Student Success Aaron Meis said the Walkout demonstrated Xavier's commitment to its Jesuit heritage.

"High school and college students who choose to participate in lawful demonstrations against gun violence... are demonstrating that they are 'women and men for and with others' in the Ignatian tradition," Meis said.

Xavier Admissions tweeted that participants from the class of 2022 "will not be penalized by Xavier in the admissions process" for their participation in similar events nationwide. Professors were encouraged, but not required, to allow students to participate in the Walkout.

At the Walkout, juniors Miah McLaurin and Deshayla Mitchem held a sign that read "When's our Walkout? #BlackLivesMatter."

"It's really important to include the people who started this movement," McLaurin said. "(Gun violence) has disproportionately affected Black and brown bodies for centuries, and it would be incredibly misaligned to not include this as a part of the conversation."

See WALKOUT, page 3

GSC, Chartwells renovation updates announced

Changes include a new timeline with restaurants set to open in October

BY SOONDOS MULLA-OSSMAN
Features Editor

After the closure of Blue Gibbon and Ryan's Pub contributed to rising tensions with reduced food options in the Gallagher Student Center (GSC), the promises of a revamped, improved atrium leave the Xavier community hopeful that they can explore it by the beginning of the fall semester. Because of delays, however, the original opening in August has been pushed back to October.

"Both Ryan's Pub and Blue Gibbon closed of their own volition due to business results," Assistant Vice President for Auxiliary Services Jude Kiah said. The restaurants had the opportunity to pull out of their contracts early without penalty, which both Ryan's Pub and Blue Gibbon chose to do. Kiah knows that Subway will continue to operate until "at least the second week of May, but it may be longer depending on when

our construction will begin."

The delay was caused by safety concerns with removing the wall separating Ryan's Pub from the atrium, Kiah said. Engineers allegedly did not initially agree that the ventilation would meet fire safety regulations but eventually concluded that the removed wall would not violate safety standards.

The postponed construction creates a need for food options for summer students, which Kiah assured will be available. He said that they are trying to open Hoff Dining Commons during summer for lunch as well as asking Currito to consider additional hours. A third plan consists of "grab 'n go" options.

Within the past few weeks, there were several new developments. Kiah reported that a construction manager, who hires the construction workers, has been hired. The university has also received the "first part of the money from

Chartwells" to do the work. Finally, they have initial renderings of the atrium's potential design.

In a meeting on April 20, Senior Director for Student Affairs and Student Involvement Leah Klenowski provided feedback on these renderings. During the Student Government Association's (SGA) final meeting on Monday, Klenowski shared the discussions with the Senate.

There will be two different storefronts available by opening. The one in Ryan's Pub's former location will be a "diner concept, with all-day-all-night breakfast" as well as a diner menu, Kiah said. Klenowski added that customers can expect typical diner food.

The second storefront in Subway and Blue Gibbon's location will be similar to a Jason's Deli, with "higher-end, hand-carved meats and cheeses, salads (and) soups," Kiah said. Although he said that they have not thought of

names, Klenowski revealed that several were shared with her. The name proposed for the whole atrium is "Ryan's Landing." Coffee Emporium, which will be managed by Chartwells but will still serve its products, may be called "Victory Perk." Coffee Emporium declined to comment for this story.

For the deli storefront, Klenowski said the university wanted to use "Charlie's," but the name is trademarked. Other proposed names include "Charlie G's," "Seven Hills Deli" and "Tristate Deli." She added that "if they left the room with anything, it's that we didn't like the names."

Regardless, Kiah said these storefronts will provide options students have asked for.

The controversy begins with that claim. During SGA's meeting on April 9, Kiah spoke as the Report of the Administration. Among other topics, he addressed the GSC renovations. In his report, he

referenced data from a number of surveys about the food students want. According to several senators, SGA had previously requested this data but was not given it.

Senator and Student Organization Committee Chair Ellen Rakowski is a sharp critic of the university's plans and actions thus far. She says people assume students on campus are not food insecure because they have food options.

"If you need to utilize the Xavier food bank or if you need to utilize different club events that have free food, you don't know about those," Rakowski said.

She said she feels that ConneX, Kiah and Director of Auxiliary Services Bill Moran are not accepting student voices and are sticking only to the data points.

"Students are more than data. We have voices and feelings and no money to spend on Charlie G's diner, frankly," Rakowski said.

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Guatemala Medical Service Trip Team Presentation

Sylvia Chemweno
Shannon Cunningham
Vikranth Doppalapudi
Adonis Hawari
Madelyn Hayes
Rachel Krevh
Amber Minefee
Eman Ohiomah
Oise Omojiuanfo
Prasun Shah
Maggie Sullivan
Laurnyn Watson



April 26th, 2018
8:00 PM
Arrupe Overlook





POLICE NOTES OF THE YEAR



Aug. 26, 4:03 p.m. — Xavier Police assisted Norwood Police in a search for a suspect wanted for robbing the UDF at Montgomery Avenue and Mentor Avenue. The subject was last seen running on Mentor Avenue. An XU Alert Me was issued.

Sept. 1, 9:04 p.m. — Xavier Police stopped a vehicle that was driving through the Xavier Yard from Brockman Hall to the front of Bellarmine Chapel. The driver was warned and sent on their way.

Sept. 9, 11:37 p.m. — Xavier Police and Norwood Police responded to the 1900 block of Hudson Avenue after receiving a noise complaint and report of a large party. Norwood Police handled the situation.

Sept. 14, 5:10 p.m. — Xavier Police and Cincinnati Fire assisted a non-student visitor when they became ill while visiting campus. The person was escorted to a local hospital.

Oct. 10, 11:19 a.m. — A student observed jumping onto air conditioning units with roller blades was referred to the code of conduct process.

Oct. 19, 11:32 p.m. — Xavier Police investigated a report of a person wearing a black morph-suit who was acting suspicious and walking through Alter Hall

and Hailstones Hall. A student was identified and referred to the code of conduct process.

Oct. 31, 7:25 p.m. — An employee reported the theft of a cardboard cutout of a *Game of Thrones* character from the Fenwick Place lobby. There are no identified suspects at the moment.

Nov. 5, 11:38 a.m. — Xavier Police received a report from a patron attending the men’s basketball game the day before that their vehicle was missing after the event. After checking around campus, the patron decided to report the missing vehicle. A short time later, with the help of officers on patrol, the vehicle was located at University Station.

Nov. 11, 1:07 a.m. — A student carrying a stolen Domino’s sign through the C-2 Lot was escorted back to the restaurant, where they returned the sign and apologized to the manager. The student was referred to the code of conduct process for theft and underage consumption of alcohol.

Dec. 2, 1:44 p.m. — A student who had been ejected from the Crosstown Shootout twice attempted to sneak back into the arena a third time and was taken into custody, transported to their room in Brockman Hall and released to Residence Life. The stu-

dent was charged with trespassing and underage consumption of alcohol and was referred to Residence Life.

Dec. 28, 8:18 p.m. — Xavier Police, Cincinnati Fire and Physical Plant responded to O’Connor Sports Center for a fire alarm. A broken water pipe that was steaming activated the alarm.

Jan. 12, 7:41 p.m. — Xavier Police, Residence Life, Cincinnati Fire and Physical Plant responded to a fire alarm at Brockman Hall. It was revealed that hairspray activated the alarm. The system was reset.

Jan. 25, 12:37 a.m. — Three students observed on Hayden Field ran away from officers when asked to stop. They eventually did and were identified and referred to the code of conduct process.

Feb. 7, 1:23 p.m. — A student reported an email scam involving Walmart and an opportunity to become a secret shopper. The student received two fraudulent checks for \$2,350 each that they did not cash and instead reported to Xavier Police.

Feb. 10, 1:55 a.m. — A student found inside Cintas Center on the arena floor flying a drone was escorted from the building and advised not to return.

Feb. 17, 8:23 a.m. — A student who attempted to steal a table from Buenger Hall was referred to the code of conduct process.

Feb. 25, 4:52 p.m. — Xavier Police investigated a vending machine that was broken into on the second floor of Fenwick Place. The company in charge of the machine was notified.

March 3, 4:54 a.m. — Xavier Police and Residence Life investigated a report of an underage intoxicated student sleeping in the fourth floor hallway of Husman Hall. The student was woken up and walked back to their room where they were released to get some sleep before their flight home at noon.

March 16, 9:39 a.m. — A Physical Plant employee reported damage to the vending machine on the second floor of Fenwick Place. The window was damaged, but the suspect was unable to access the products.

April 11, 4:43 a.m. — Xavier Police investigated a student trying to get into the front entrance of Brockman Hall wearing nothing but shorts. The student advised that they were possibly sleepwalking and locked themselves out.

April 16, 4:45 p.m. — A Subway employee reported someone stole a tray of cookies from the display area early in the week. An investigation is pending.

**NOTE OF THE
YEAR**

**Your friendly
neighborhood
FBI agent**

Oct. 16, 3:16 p.m. — Xavier Police assisted Residence Life with a search in Kuhlman Hall after a report of a male subject between 40 and 50 years of age telling RAs he was from the FBI and looking for “bugs.” The area was checked, but the subject was unable to be located.

WALKOUT: Friday’s event led to ‘Walk Up’ in response

Continued from page 1

In response, SGA Vice President Cole Stautberg said that the organizers “do recognize that this is not the only form of gun violence, that gun violence adversely affects a lot of different communities.”

In response to the Walkout, Xavier University College Republicans (XUCR) planned its own “Walk Up” event during which members handed out “encouragement cards.” The event was non-combative and took place later in the day that same Friday.

“The Walkout might be a little bit more politically polarizing,” XUCR Vice President Lily Hutkowski said. “Our goal (was) to encourage students...in a way that includes the most people.”

The Walk Up discouraged missing or disrupting class. XUCR President Cole

Branham explained that for him and other members, the Walkout wasn’t the solution because it was too polarizing.

“The point of the cards is taking the higher road,” Branham said. “Rather than be divisive and derogatory...(the purpose of the Walk Up was) to be uplifting and encouraging.”

Branham also said that he believed the Walk Up differed from the Walkout in that it was “something we can all rally behind.”

Another aspect that differentiated the two events was the inclusion of a focus on mental health.

Hect said that he had asked SGA to include a mental health focus “because it is not just a gun issue.” While the Walkout didn’t focus on mental health, the Walk Up had information on psychological services available.

XUCR also critiqued the lack of consensus among SGA members regarding the funding for the event. Tyler Harmon, who abstained from the vote in which the Senate approved moving money to the project fund for extra security, explained his thought process.

“I didn’t want to say no to extra security. I’m for everyone’s safety,” Harmon said. “I abstained because I didn’t want to say no to that, but also it was for the Walkout, and I didn’t want to say yes to that.”


While Harmon felt that the Walkout was “more of a politicized event,” he felt that the Walk Up dealt with the “bullying aspect” of gun violence and would be “more impactful than the Walkout and the call to action.”

Srsich contended that the reforms they called for were not partisan.

X U P D

Announcement

Xavier Police is in the process of cleaning out its lost and found property locker. If you would like to check for any lost or missing items, please stop by Flynn Hall on business days between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. by Friday, May 4.



See
something,
Say
something

The rest will fall into place

Yesterday, I picked up my alumni ALLCard as well as the letter I wrote to myself during the last day of Manresa 2014. My Manresa group name was “Uranus,” so there were a few freshman-level jokes in there, but the most interesting part was looking at where freshman Jess thought she would end up.

Turns out, the future I’d envisioned for myself wasn’t so far from where I’m actually at now. “I see myself graduating with an English degree in 2018,” I wrote from the basement of Brockman, where our group met.

“Maybe I’m Editor-in-Chief of the *News-wire*.” However, despite the fact that both of those things are true now—I am graduating with a degree in English, and I’ve been the editor-in-chief of the *Newswire* for the last two years—the

journey to get from there to here looked a lot different from what I thought it might.

Like most incoming freshmen (when I was a freshman, “first-year” was a very new and not-yet-generally-accepted term), I had a very distinct idea of what college would be like. I’d seen the depictions of dorm life and independence in movies and read about them in books, and all of the alums who came back to my AP English class seemed to have similar stories to share. I imagined that I would arrive on campus, kiss my parents goodbye and immediately start my life as a “college student.”

That wasn’t the case. The first few months of school were really hard for me. I didn’t connect with anyone in my Manresa group beyond just saying “hi” in passing, and it felt like everyone else had. I struggled

with finding where I fit in this completely new environment where before I’d always known. I wrote in my freshman letter that maybe I’d be the editor-in-chief of the *Newswire* come senior year because I’d been the editor-in-chief of my high school paper, but it took me until second semester that first year to work up the courage to even attend a meeting. Once I did, though, my place at Xavier that seemed so out of focus and uncertain became a little clearer.

That’s super cliché, I’m aware, but it’s also true.

Before you come to college, you think that this is a chance to reinvent yourself. You’ll be outgoing now when before you were an introvert.

Your friend group in high school was small, but in college, you’ll be the life of the party. Speaking of parties, in college you’ll constantly be going out—weekends, weeknights, weekdays, it doesn’t matter—when in high school you’d been shocked that someone had beer in their

trunk at prom.

Those are all examples that apply to me, but I think generally everyone plans to change something about themselves in some way as part of the “college experience.” From my experience, though, college isn’t a time for reinvention. It’s a time to hit your stride. You’re good at something. You always have been. Maybe it’s socializing or playing video games or doing math that incorporates the alphabet or running a newspaper. Whatever it is, college is the time to figure out how what you’re good at factors into the rest of your life.

I’m still an introvert, I can still count my number of truly close school friends on one hand and although I do dabble in craft beer, I’m still not much of a drinker.

None of that changed during the course of the last four years. Instead, I focused in on what I love and what I’m good at, which culminated in my becoming editor-in-chief of the *Newswire*.

Through the *Newswire*, I met some truly great people, learned a whole lot about my work and myself and secured the skills I know I’ll need to be successful (in any capacity) in the future.

When I think about how I’ve spent my time in college, I think it can be pretty well summarized by one quote spoken by the wisest TV character ever created, Ron Swanson: “Never half-ass two things, whole-ass one thing.”

You’re good at something. Find it, whole-ass it and the rest will fall into place.



Jess Griggs is a senior English major and the outgoing Editor-in-Chief for the *Newswire* from Lafayette, Ind.

My letter to you, a senior

Dear Senior,

It is now time to accept that the beginning has ended. The end has begun. The middle is relegated to fond memory—or maybe the middle is a mixture and you are still left wondering what it was. Or perhaps the whole thing is all jumbled. Do you feel mixed up inside? Are you wondering what just happened, as you step out of the car, shaking, and realizing that you were

moving so fast that the view was too blurry in parts for you to remember at all?

Within the confines of your mind, the culmination of these past four years colors you anew. You are a happier person, maybe, or maybe sadder. Maybe more at peace, or maybe more anxious. Perhaps you are angry; perhaps you are heartbroken. Perhaps you are heart-*full* and ecstatic. Hopefully you are jumping with joy. Hopefully you’ve learned a lot about many things and many people have learned a lot from you. Most likely, all of this has been inside you at some point these past four years, and some of it has remained inside you and become a part of you.

But you’ve been on one of the longest car rides of your life. This car ride was four years long, no stops. So as you step out of the car, put all of this aside for a moment.

Hold up your hands. Look

at them. There, on the side of the road, a pond. Go and stare at the reflection of your hands. Your face. Your arms and legs. Get into the water, let it pool around you. Hold your head under and listen to the silence. Soak in the water and let your aching body rest.

People who drive on the road will stop their cars. They will get out and approach the water, they will ask you when you are planning on getting out. Smile at them. Ask them, “When are you planning on finding a pond of your own to soak in?” Perhaps they will surprise you.

Forgive me, for I sometimes believe that I am capable of poetry. Seniors, when you walk across the stage at graduation, only one thing is true: You have finished four years of work. The work involved shaping and forming—it involved building and informing—it involved processing,

reflecting, sharing, failing and succeeding.

For some of you, the work was not as tiresome as for others. That does not mean that nothing was accomplished; indeed, if you can hold your head up high and point to the things that have been awakened in you, the things you have learned and processed and the ideas that you yourself have grown, you will know that you have done work, and the work did a part of you, too. You probably feel satisfied with yourself. Good. You should.

The problem is, for many of you, that *is* what these four years were—work. Sure, you took summers “off,” probably to do more work so you could pay to do the work you would do at school again next year. Sure, the weekends were probably memorable ones,

and maybe some of the weeknights. And no, you did not spend every waking moment actually *working*, but full-time students know that time off is simply time *putting work* off.

Why is this a problem? Isn’t four years of work a rewarding idea? Shouldn’t I say, “Seniors, pat yourselves on the back. You’ve done a great thing, hooray!”

Well, I do say that! Four years of work is a rewarding idea, and graduating is now a great reward.

That is why, seniors, as you get out of the car for the first time in four years, the first thing you *must do* is drop everything you just spent your four years doing and get in the pond. Because the time you spend now relaxing is the time that will launch you into what you’ve prepared for for these four years.

The problem is, for many of you, that is what these four years were — work.



Max Bruns is a senior HAB, English and philosophy triple major. He is the outgoing Distribution Manager for the *Newswire* from Cincinnati.

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The Xavier *Newswire* is committed to reporting the news as well as explain its significance to readers. In addition, through publishing opposing viewpoints and opinions, the *Newswire* hopes to foster a dialogue on campus among students, faculty and staff.

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Advertising inquiries can be sent to the business and advertising manager, Kate Sanders, at newswire-advertising@xavier.edu.

For Your Information
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*The *Newswire* has made the decision to stray from the AP Style Guide when printing the words White and Black in reference to groups of people. We have decided to capitalize both.

Spend time on the little things

I honestly don't remember much from high school. The years blend together in my mind, and mostly, I look back on it as a quick blur of teen angst.

One thing that has truly stuck with me from high school, however, came from my senior English teacher. With one week left in the school year, she looked out at the room of 25 fidgeting, excited and nervous 18-year-olds and made a statement that has stuck with me.

"You are going to experience a whole new world when you enter college. I won't remind you to always do what makes you happy, nor will I suggest that striving for success is most important. The most meaningful advice that I can give you is to remember that the little things matter."

This struck me as an odd

Happiness and success are supposed to be the ultimate goals, right?

request at the time. Happiness and success are supposed to be the ultimate goals, right? We'd been trained to set our sights as high as possible, and even if things didn't turn out as planned, that's ok as long as we were happy. Spending time on things little things sounded nice, but there's no way that could be more important.

Throughout my years here, I have begun to understand why my teacher chose that reminder specifically. While at Xavier, striving for success and happiness came naturally for me.

I sought leadership positions in clubs and went after internships that would give me a competitive edge. I developed close friendships with people and spent many Saturday afternoons binge-watching shows on Netflix.

Things that weren't directly related to school or

required extra effort did not always come as naturally.

Making time for volunteering was challenging when juggling classes and extracurriculars.

Going out of my way to find a recycling bin when I was late for class was much more inconvenient than just throwing my bottle in the trash. And telling the truth to a professor about a late assignment was much harder than pretending to be sick. All of these "little things" that I thought were unimportant, turned out to be central to making my college experience meaningful.

Now here we are, four years later, once again getting ready to start a new chapter in our lives.

To the Class of 2018, the

...you will have the opportunity to take a little extra time to slow down on things that may not seem important.

best advice I can think of is to offer the same reminder that my teacher gave me. As you make the transition into a new job, volunteering, graduate school or whatever your plans are after graduation, spend time on the little things.

Regardless of what you end up doing in the future, you will have the opportunity to take a little extra time to slow down on things that may not seem important.

This may manifest itself in getting to know your roommate, helping out a coworker or simply taking the extra time to be a good friend. If my college experience is at all indicative of the future, though, remembering to take advantage of these kinds of small acts will not always come instinctively or intuitively. We

will need to actively strive to remember to embrace those moments. If we can do that, I firmly believe that we will all lead much more meaningful lives.

Many of us have yet to determine precisely what makes us happy or exactly what success will mean for us in the coming years.

But if we spend time on the little things, we may just discover success and happiness come along the way.



Olivia Knestrict is a senior criminal justice major from Mason, Ohio. She is the outgoing Head Copy Editor for the Newswire.

Goodbye Xavier: more than a school

I've thought about what I'd write for my last contribution to the *Newswire* since I became the Opinions and Editorial page editor at the end of my sophomore year. As the outgoing Op-Ed editor, I had the privilege of helping three years of seniors voice their parting thoughts to the Xavier community. But now that it's my turn, I truly have no idea what to say.

I toyed with the idea of giving deep, philosophically sage advice to the underclassmen about how quickly it all goes by and to treasure all the



Abrena Rowe is a senior psychology major from Cincinnati. She is the outgoing Opinions and Editorials editor for the Newswire.

moments ahead of them. I thought about reflecting on my past week and all of the amazing events I took part in for the last time as a student on Xavier's campus. I even debated writing a comical piece that has absolutely nothing to do with parting words or saying goodbye to a place I've come to think of as my home simply because goodbyes are too hard for me.

Back when I was a freshman (and back when we were called freshmen), I was convinced Xavier was not the place for me. I even went as far as starting applications to other schools to attend during spring semester.

Ultimately, I never followed through with any of those plans, honestly because I was too lazy to finish any of the applications. Some days I thank myself for my laziness, and other days I wonder what could've happened if I had more motivation to explore other universities.

Fast forward to the summer between sophomore and junior year: I switched from

trying to figure out a way to leave Xavier to doing everything I possibly could to stay. The 180 degree turn in my attitude toward Xavier occurred because I had something worth fighting for. I became involved within the community. I found a major and minor with professors and classes I thoroughly enjoyed and I formed countless deep and meaningful friendships.

The person I was the first two years at Xavier compared to the person I became for the last two years is a testament to my go-to advice for anyone planning to attend or thinking of leaving Xavier. You absolutely have to get involved.

Xavier is a place that thrives on community building. If you choose to not be involved in any clubs or communities and you simply go to class and go home, you won't love the school. It will be your personal hellhole if you stand by and watch while everyone beams with pride over a place you feel like you don't belong in.

As much as I would love to say I love Xavier for its academia, I'd be lying. It's a nice bonus, but the true reason I love this place so

much is because of the people. The people who make up my Xavier family are the reason I fought to stay. They're the reason I smile whenever someone asks me what university I'm graduating from. They're the reason I'm not looking forward to saying goodbye to this campus in a little more than two weeks.

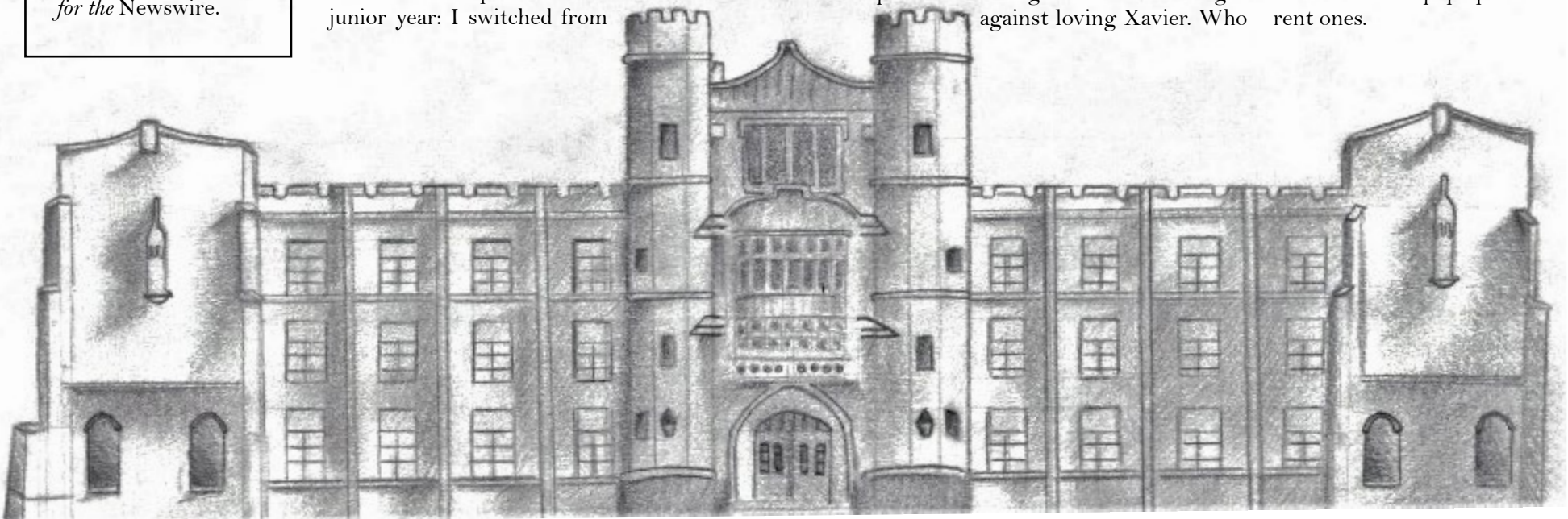
Because it's not Xavier that I'll miss, it's everyone I've met along the way and who has impacted my journey that I'll miss.

I fought as hard against loving Cincinnati as I fought against loving Xavier. Who

would've thought I would be so upset saying a final goodbye to a campus and community I didn't even want to be a part of in the first place? More importantly, who would've thought I would still be in Ohio after proclaiming I would be gone after high school graduation?

It's crazy how the more you fight against something, the more it becomes deeply rooted in your life.

The greatest thing Xavier has given me during the past four years is the knowledge that no matter how hard I plan or how intensely I try to control the events of my life to follow my perfect storyline, something will always ruin that for me, along with the patience and ability to discover new paths when obstacles pop up on current ones.



Musketeers glide to a victory over the Blue Jays

BY PAUL FRITSCHNER
Staff Writer

Baseball is an extremely finicky sport. One day, a team can go out and lay an egg on one of those afternoons where the coach says after, "Shake it off and look forward to tomorrow."

The next day, the script can be completely flipped and a team that was dominated only a short time before can put its foot down for a win.

Such was the case this past weekend at Hayden Field between Xavier and the Creighton Blue Jays.

On the first pitch of the weekend Friday afternoon, Creighton's lead-off batter Clark Brinkman smacked a home run over the left field fence.

That set a precedent for what was to come. Brinkman's home run was one of eight total round-trippers that the Blue Jays hit on Friday.

They made use of Hayden Field's shorter fences to plate



Photo courtesy of goxavier.com

Chris Givin had five hits and five RBIs in the series vs. Creighton.

a total of 24 runs en route to a 24-8 victory.

Xavier's pitching staff, already depleted because of injuries, was busy in game one.

The Musketeers had to use six different pitchers to get through the game. With two tilts left in the series, there were questions as to who would appear throughout the next two days.

Saturday afternoon, senior Damien Richard was scheduled to start on the bump for

Xavier. Then, after throwing his bullpen session before the game, he made the decision not to start because of an injury.

The injury bug claimed another victim, and the Musketeers had to turn to sophomore infielder Conor Grammes to make a spot start. He gave the Musketeers a career-high three innings and only allowed one run before he was pulled in favor of Nick Zwack.

The freshman churned out six solid innings, but Creighton hit him around for six runs and took Saturday's game by a final of 7-3. Xavier left 13 men on base in the game.

"(Saturday) was a day that we had some opportunities and we just didn't cash those opportunities in," head coach Billy O'Conner said.

Needing a win to not dig itself in too deep of a hole in the Big East standings, Xavier gave the ball to freshman Allbry Major, who started

Sunday's series finale. Needless to say, Major delivered in the clutch. Xavier rode him as long as it could, and when all was said and done, he had thrown more than 110 pitches in seven full innings while allowing only four runs and striking out nine. This was the performance on the mound out of a starting pitcher Xavier desperately needed.

"Allbry was unbelievable today. He got hit around a little bit, but he just kept competing," O'Conner said.

Offensively, Xavier scored first to set the tone, and even when Creighton tied it early and made it close late, the Musketeers responded.

Freshman Ryan Altenberger was 3-3 with two doubles, sophomore Natale Monastra had a home run, junior Chris Givin had a two-run triple and sophomore Andrew Sexton delivered an enormous bunt on a squeeze play late in the game to seal the victory. Xavier went on to

win by a final of 12-8.

The conference season is now halfway complete, and Xavier is 3-6 in the Big East. Only the top four teams make the Big East tournament, and the Musketeers are half a game behind the fourth-place Blue Jays, who have a 3-5 record.

"I told them before the game today that man, today is (the) Big East championship...we've got to treat every game like it is a Big East championship...it was like a Big East championship atmosphere for us," O'Conner said.

Xavier has a huge opportunity at home this coming weekend against a St. John's team that is currently undefeated in conference play. It is coming off a series sweep against Georgetown.

The three-game swing against the Red Storm is set to begin at 3 p.m. on Friday followed by a 1 p.m. first pitch on Saturday. The final game of the series is scheduled for a noon start time on Sunday.

Women's golf lands third-place finish to end season at the Big East Championship



Photo courtesy of goxavier.com

Junior Mikayla Smith was a top performer for the women's golf team, shooting a score of 231 (+15) to place seventh overall over the weekend.

BY JACK DUNN
Campus News Editor

The Xavier women's golf season ended its season on a high note, finishing in third place in the 2018 Big East Championship.

The Musketeers were led by junior Mikayla Smith, who placed seventh with a score of 231, or +15.

While Smith led the way for the Musketeers, there were two other finishes in the top 15, as well as the two others in the top 25.

Sophomore Mikayla Fitzpatrick tied for 12th place with a score of 236, or +20. Fitzpatrick also finished with the second-best par 5 average, shooting for par on all of the par 5s for the tournament.

Freshman Andie Shukow tied for 15th, shooting a 239, or +23. Shukow also tied with freshman Morgan Tinsley in birdies, with each getting four out of the 15 Xavier had as a team. Tinsley also secured the 22nd spot on the tournament, shooting a 243, or a +27. Finally, redshirt senior Grace

Howie placed 23rd, shooting a 244 or a +28.

Smith believes that there were glimpses of greatness at the tournament, but the team needs to work on consistency.

"Throughout the year we were able to put together some great rounds, but I think it was the inconsistency this tournament that hurt us," Smith said.

"Georgetown was the most steady, and that is why they won. I think the win at Eastern Kentucky showed our potential, but we need to strive for that more often."

The third-place finish was an improvement from a fourth-place finish the Musketeers had last year. Xavier had a team score of 313, 309 and 316 each day of the tournament for a total score of 938, or +74.

"I was happy to see us move into the third place position this year at conference, but obviously, claiming that top spot is our ultimate goal," head coach Breanna Patz said. "We have to continue to improve at each position in our lineup and play more steady golf at the

conference championship in order to make that jump."

The Georgetown Hoyas won the championship for the second consecutive year, with a three-day score of 903 or +39.

"Georgetown has a really deep team that was able to make birdies and have some low scores throughout the three days," Patz said. "We struggled to match. The girls showed a better level of work ethic this year, so I'm confident we'll continue that into next year, which will help us make the improvements we need to contend for a title in the future."

Patz also had high praise for the young squad, expressing high expectations for the group: "We had a young team this year, and every player on our roster was in the top five at some point during the season."

"It was good to see all the players contribute and gain experience for the future," she continued. "Callawassie Island Golf Club is a challenging golf course, and the freshmen that got to play in the lineup this year experienced that. I think this will help them understand why I try to make our practice and qualifying rounds at home challenging throughout the season."

Despite the challenges that the course presents, Patz is confident that the team can perform well on it in the coming years.

"Georgetown showed that it's a course we can score on, and we watched them do it for three days this year. We know it can be done. Now we just have to keep working hard and building confidence in ourselves that we can be the ones to get it done there next year," Patz said.



Photo courtesy of goxavier.com

After concluding the regular season last weekend against Butler, the Musketeers prepare for the Big East Tournament as the seventh seed.

Men's tennis closes regular season, looks to tournament

BY COLIN COOPER
Staff Writer

The Xavier men's tennis team traveled to Butler University in Indianapolis for a Big East Conference matchup last weekend. It competed at the Butler Bubble in Xavier's final match of the regular season.

Although the Bulldogs won the match, the Musketeers will attempt to push through adversity heading toward the Big East Tournament in the coming week.

During the Saturday matchup with Butler, Xavier was unable to grab any singles wins.

Butler dominated the singles, as all but one set was even close for Xavier. Freshman Jan Vrba played the best of the Musketeers in singles, losing closely 6-4, 7-5 in his match.

Xavier was able to see some success during the weekend, as it was able to find a win in doubles matches. Senior Gabriel Araujo and junior Jack Dykema won the only match for Xavier on Saturday by a score of 6-3 over Butler.

Along with the matchup at

Butler this weekend, Xavier tennis also found out its fate for the 2018 Big East Tournament.

The tournament, which is being held at the Cayce Tennis & Fitness Center in Cayce, S.C., will have eight Big East schools compete for the title of Conference Champion.

Of the eight possible seeds, Xavier received the seventh seed. This seeding will match it up against second-seeded St. John's in the quarterfinals. The Musketeers will face the Red Storm on Friday at 12:30 p.m.

If Xavier wins, it will advance to the semifinals on Saturday to face the winner of Marquette/Georgetown.

Xavier looks to close out the 2018 season on a high and competitive note. A strong performance at the Big East Tennis Championships this coming weekend will create strong momentum heading into the fall season, especially for a team that is loaded with underclassmen.

The future is bright for Xavier men's tennis, and this upcoming weekend will help lay the groundwork for it.

The Crossover of the Century

Avengers: Infinity War premieres Friday.

Here are Marvel movies to watch in preparation

By JACK DUNN
Campus News Editor

Iron Man (2008): The movie that started it all. It's almost hard to believe that this movie came out 10 years ago and what exactly the Marvel Universe has become because of it. It's got it all: the swagger of RDJ as Tony Stark, the badass fights, the classic Marvel villain and arguably the best ending to a super hero movie in the history of ever.

The Avengers (2012): If you think the hype for this movie is real, throwback to 2012 right before this movie came out. This movie not only brought together your favor-

ite heroes (and villains) for the first time on screen, but it also redefined "superhero blockbuster," making \$1.5 billion during its theatrical run.

Captain America: Civil War (2016): I know, I know, I should put the second Avengers movie *Age of Ultron* here so you understand more context for *Infinity War*. But this was *Age of Ultron* part two, and it was MUCH better. It has epic hero vs hero fights, and it also introduces two new favorites to the MCU: Spider-man and Black Panther.

Guardians of the Galaxy, Vol. I and II (2014 and 2017): I couldn't pick between

the two. These movies are proof that Marvel can make even the most obscure comic superheroes fun. This unorthodox superhero team, led by the incredibly funny Starlord played by Chris Pratt, not only explains more of the galactic scale of the MCU, but also has a lot of laughs while doing it. It has the best soundtrack too, if you ask me.

Black Panther (2018): I won't spoil this one since it came out so recently, but it is a fantastic movie, and it will give you the most context as to what is happening right before *Infinity War*. This movie is the perfect lead-up.

Welcome to the West



The final line of Benmun Damul's creation being presented on the stairs of Smith Hall Atrium. She presented her collection, titled Moon Dame, to an enthusiastic response by the crowd of Xavier students and alumni.

By ABRENA ROWE
Opinions & Editorials Editor

If there was ever a time that flawlessly displayed the myriad of talent Xavier students possess, last Saturday was that time. That evening in the Smith Hall atrium, Xavier students put on a fashion show called "Welcome to the West."

The event was organized by senior Prince Nortey and junior Victoria Mbachilin in under a month.

"We wanted a platform...to not only showcase my designs and others' designs, but offer a platform for various students to show their hidden talents to the Xavier community," Nortey said.

The brands featured were GrindGrind, Varem Apparel, Nest Phil Global and Moon Dame.

GrindGrind was founded in 2014 by Xavier alum Anthony (Ant) Renfro. It is clothing that allows its wearer to take part in actions that produce better and faster results.

Varem Apparel is a new line that has yet to officially launch. "Verem will official-

ly launch in the summer of 2018," Mbachilin said. The official website drops April 22.

Varem Apparel took a colorful and playful take on traditional athletic wear with leggings, hoodies and sports bras made of eye-catching prints. Mbachilin hopes to release a new winter line at the end of 2018.

Nortey's Nest Phil Global is a line that exemplifies confidence and elegance. Founded in January, 2018, the line will have a website online with the beginnings of Nest Phil Global's women's clothing line. The pieces shown during the fashion show resembled traditional West African casual wear with a sleeker design. The shirts were solid colors with distinguishable African print and colors accenting the pieces.

Moon Dame is a line that was founded in 2016. "I saw the need to intersect fashion, healing, sustainability, empowerment and environmental justice...that is why I started the line (Moon Dame)," founder junior Benmun Damul said.

The audience responded empathically to her designs. The garments were made from sheets and other forgotten fabrics. When asked what's next, Damul said, "I plan on creating more on a large scale (and) start selling to the public."

In addition to the lines, there were musical performances by four Xavier students and a dance number by the African Student Association's (ASA) dance team. Senior Jibrail Sadava DJed and senior Shon Weathers opened the show performing several of his own songs, with vocals by senior Amir Davis. Between lines, senior Deena Dakhiel serenaded the audience with two popular Rihanna ballads. Fifth-year Taylor Zachary, who also served as the host for the entire event, slowed things down with a piano piece. Videos and poster promotions filmed and edited by Xavier alum Montel Adkins were also presented.

Overall, "Welcome to the West" was an event that more than showcased what Xavier's students of color are capable of.

XavierFest Preview

XavierFest starts at 4 on the Yard so get ready!

By HANNAH PAIGE MICHELS

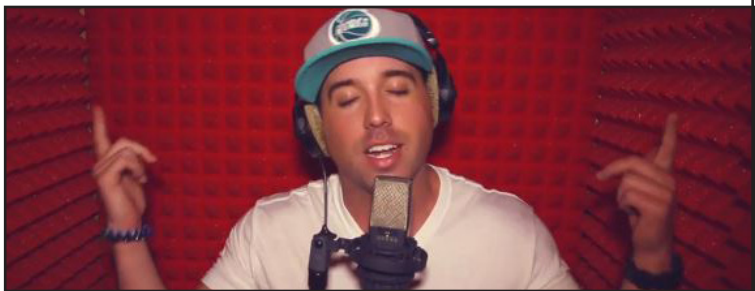


Photo courtesy of YouTube

Mike Stud

His music can be described in one word: tolerable. Relatively unoriginal, Mike Stud seems to rap more about "bitches," "fame," and getting drunk than of anything relatively substantial. Though the shallow subject material of his music is unsurprising, it's also unoriginal and doesn't add anything new or innovative to the music scene. The tune and beat of his music is better than most of the aggressive rap music filling house parties, but is nothing I'd every add to a playlist.

Best song(s): This Feeling; Brightside

McKinley Dixon

A step up from Mike Stud is McKinley Dixon. His lyrics are much more crafted and intentional than those of Mike Stud. McKinley Dixon takes on a more upbeat approach to his music, though a lot of his songs end up blurring together with similar sounds. I was really impressed with his song "Bare Knuckle" and its funky urban feel as well as its social commentary.

Best song: Bare Knuckle

Cassidi

Giving some major JoJo vibes, Cassidi's music is definitely the kind of sound you'd hear on the radio. Though definitely vocally talented, Cassidi's biggest advantage is being able to differentiate her songs from one another. Bringing in heavy bass beats and soft piano, Cassidi's versatile nature keeps listeners interested with each new track. If you're looking for more music that belongs on the average pop radio station, check out Cassidi's music. Think "Closer" by The Chainsmokers meets JoJo.

Best song(s): All Eyes; Fake Friends



Photo courtesy of YouTube

Lee Dewyze

Considering his success on *American Idol*, it's no shock that Lee Dewyze has some talent. He's definitely a versatile artist where each song is on a spectrum of Imagine Dragons, American Authors and AWOLNATION. Occasionally, Lee brings out a mild twang in his songs, but nothing that a Mumford & Sons or Lumineers fan couldn't get behind. Lee Dewyze has a great voice and some pretty moving music that you can still bop along to. If you're looking for a single artist that's similar to any of the bands listed above, give Lee Dewyze a listen. Just don't be thrown off by his most popular song "Sweet Serendipity," which sounds more like Andy Grammer. It's from 2010—it was a different time.

Best song(s): Blackbird Song; Oil & Water

DJ Jacoby

Though you'll need to be bilingual to understand DJ Jacoby's afro-pop music, his tracks are, without a doubt, worthy of a dance party. With higher drum beats and the occasional sounding of trumpets, DJ Jacoby's music creates a worry-free environment that makes it pretty irresistible to be on anything but your feet.

Best song: On sait pas ou on va

NewsWire

2018-2019 Staff

The peas in our pod

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